

PLOUGH LANDS MADE PASTURE

Decline of Agriculture in
England Generally
Lamented

LONDON, Oct. 2.—Farmers and their laborers everywhere are profoundly dissatisfied with the meager reward accorded to their toil," writes the labor correspondent of the Daily Mail, as a result of a tour of the agricultural districts in England. "It is true that farmers are notorious grumblers," he says, "but there can be no doubt that at the present time they have exceptional, perhaps unprecedented, cause therefore."

"Through some gross and glaring defect in our distributive methods a monstrous proportion of the laborer's just wage is falling into the pockets of profiteering middlemen, and little or nothing of it goes to the actual workers and producers. The result is that the farmers are unable to afford decent pay to their laborers, and are even compelled in many cases to dispense with paid work altogether. Consequently the state has to maintain thousands of men in idleness at a cost of millions of pounds, while the land is being starved in productivity for lack of labor."

"At the same time, in the vital defensive business of self-feeding, the country is losing all that it gained during the war. Most of the land which was under the plough is returning to permanent pasture. In 1918 we had 12,300,000 acres of arable land; last year we had only 11,300,000. Yet the grass land is 1,401,000 less than in 1914, and the total area of both crops and grass has diminished by more than 1,000,000 acres."

RING SEASON OPENS EARLY IN LONDON

LONDON, Oct. 2.—The London boxing season has opened early this year. At the ring recently Fred Archer survived 20 rounds of an encounter with Colin McLachlan, of America, and was given the verdict on points.

McLachlan brought with him a formidable record of reported knockouts to his credit. British boxers were duly impressed, but Fred Archer, a Londoner, took the newcomer on and boxed a draw with him. McLachlan was wrath at the verdict and demanded another bout. The second contest between them took place at the "Ring."

"McLachlan," says the Daily News, describing the fight, "is a rugged, strong fighter with no defense. He can hit, but he has not yet learned the proper way. Archer, a better boxer, scored dozens of lefts, and almost closed his rival's left eye. The loser won no more than three of the rounds, and the best that may be said of him is that he is game to the core. The majority of men would have been disheartened at such persistent assault and battery as his face endured."

Roland Todd, of Doncaster, fought Frankie Burns, the Australian middleweight, at Liverpool and won in the twelfth round. In the third round Burns was knocked down twice, and again in the ninth round. After he had been badly punished his seconds threw in the towel.

FORMER CAPTAIN OF BIG LINER HUMBLER

PETROGRAD, Oct. 2.—The port of Petrograd, principally frequented today by small German steamers, furnishes striking illustration of what the confiscation of Germany's big liner by the allies has done to the old officers of the German merchant marine.

Once pacing the bridge of Atlantic liners carrying thousands of passengers, these officers are now commanding, or standing watches on tiny tubs that skirt the shores of the Baltic.

From over 50,000 tons to less than 1,000 tons, has for example, been the change in the command held by Wilhelm Witte, once captain of the "Imperator." He recently brought the 550-ton Karlsruhe from Cologne to Petrograd.

BIG TRACT OF PINE IS SOLD

Sandpoint Lumber & Pole
Co. Buys 3000 Acres of
Timber

SPOKANE, Wash., Oct. 2.—The Sandpoint Lumber & Pole Co., of Sandpoint, Idaho, has purchased from the forest service about 3,000 acres of timber on Callahan Creek, in Montana, largely Idaho white pine and cedar. This stream empties into the Kootenai river at Troy, Mont., a division point on the Great Northern railway. At Troy the Sandpoint company has made arrangements to build a single hand modern sawmill, with a daily capacity of about 60,000 feet, as part of a \$200,000 development program. A lathe mill is also to be installed. H. C. Culver, president of the Sandpoint Lumber & Pole Co., in discussing the company's operations, said:

"The mill plans have been prepared by F. W. Hortakotte, of Spokane, who is to have charge of the construction work. Arrangements have been made for most of the machinery and I expect we will be cutting in November. Our logs and poles will be hauled into Troy from the mill over the railroad owned and operated by the mining company, according to a contract we have with it. We have already built three miles of our own railroad to connect with the mine road and will build the entire seven miles together with necessary side lines. The timber purchased from the government, together with other nearby holdings should furnish the mill with over 100,000,000 feet of logs in addition to about 200,000 poles. It is estimated that some seven or eight years will be required to finish the operation. The company will continue its business in Sandpoint, but will establish an office in Troy in the near future."

AMUNDSEN TO CARRY LETTERS OVER POLE

SEATTLE, Wash., Oct. 2.—One of the most spectacular chapters in the annals of world wide postal delivery may be written when Captain Ronald Amundsen, famous Norwegian explorer, wings his way across the top of the world in his proposed attempt to fly an airplane from the tip of Alaska to northernmost Europe via the North Pole. With him in his monoplane will ride a mail sack containing letters written by home residents for delivery to friends in Europe.

If weather conditions had not forced a postponement of the flight until next year, these letters might have reached their destination a week ahead of the time required to make delivery by the established routes. As it is, arriving perhaps more than a year later, they will have a priceless historical value to their recipients who will doubtless follow the affairs of their explorer-postman with intensified interest.

According to a report by Postmaster Walsh of Nome to local postal officials, the letters were written when Captain Amundsen was about to depart from the mining camp on his way to Wainwright, 160 miles southwest of Point Barrow, where he will winter awaiting favorable conditions for his proposed flight.

MODERN METHODS MAY TRIPLE CROPS

ALEXANDROPOL, Armenia, Oct. 2.—Twenty-two American tractors, imported by the Near East Relief commission, have ploughed 2,500 acres and produced 20 bushels of barley per acre, against 10 bushels per acre the result of native methods which called for 500 men and 1500 oxen on the same job.

Professor Hartill, of the New York Institute of Agriculture, directed this experiment in order to prove to the Armenian agriculturists the advantage of American farm machinery. Professor Hartill estimates that the cereal production of Armenia can be increased 300 per cent by the use of modern methods.



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TREASURY OF JAPAN FULL

TOKIO, Oct. 2.—What may be regarded as the state's balance sheet for the fiscal year 1931 is published by the finance department. According to the publication, the gross revenue amounted to 2,065,709,763 yen and the total expenditure to 1,489,826,278 yen, thereby leaving a balance of 575,883,485 yen.

Compared with the estimated budget for the same fiscal year the actual expenditure fell short approximately 54,000,000 yen, while the revenue exceeded the estimate by 469,000,000 yen. Compared with the actual revenue and expenditure for the preceding fiscal year, the former indicates an increase of 55,000,000 yen and the latter an increase of 130,000,000 yen. On the revenue, the greatest part was from taxes which amounted to 785,851,000 yen, followed by government property proceeds with 323,782,000 yen.

The navy and communications departments head the list in the amount of expenditure, the former recording 483,581,000 yen and the latter 245,000,000 yen. The surplus funds available for the next fiscal year amount to 154,323,000 yen.

SAILORS' FAMILIES GET GERMAN MONEY

LONDON, Oct. 2.—J. Havelock Wilson, member of parliament, general president of the National Sailors' and Firemen's union, has received official notification from the treasury that £5,000,000 of German reparations money has been finally earmarked for distribution among the dependents of 17,000 British seamen who were done to death by the German sink-at-sight submarine campaign.

During the war merchant seamen on unarmed ships did not rank for pensions or compensation under any naval conditions. Their work in maintaining food ships was accompanied with great loss of life, and the prime minister, through Mr. Wilson, gave an undertaking that in the event of victory the first payment from German reparations money should be for compensation to the dependents of this class of seamen.

IMPERIAL GROUNDS PRESENTED TO TOKIO

TOKIO, Oct. 2.—The Imperial household department has announced that the Shinjuku Imperial gardens, where each year the Imperial cherry blossom garden party has taken place, will be granted to the city of Tokio. Another garden is being sought for the city.

The Shinjuku park which embraces 180,000 tsubo, hinders traffic between Yotsuya and Sendagaya and prevents extension of one of these stations. Four thousand tsubo were granted last year to the prefecture for construction of a middle school.

DIVORCE SEEKERS HASTEN TO FIUME

FIUME, Oct. 2.—This city counts a population of 60,000; 15,000 of them received decrees of divorce in the years 1920 and 1921. Divorce seems to be the most flourishing of the local industries, and it is making the city famous.

The reason is that the severance of the marital bond is easy here, and people desiring freedom flock to Fiume from neighboring states where divorces are not granted. Anyone can get a divorce in Fiume who has lived in the city long enough to acquire the rights of citizenship.



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